UNITED
NATIONS

CRC

Convention on the
Rights of the Child

Distr.
GENERAL

CRC/SP/SR.3
1 March 1991

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

MEETING OF THE STATES PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 3rd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 1 March 1991, at 3 p.m.

Chairman:	Mr. SY (Chairman)	(Senegal)
later:	Mr. BORG-OLIVIER (Vice-Chairman)	(Malta)
later:	Mr. SY (Chairman)	(Senegal)

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Establishment of the Committee on the Rights of the Child:

(a) Election of the ten members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child in accordance with article 43 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (continued)

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(b) Choice by lot by the Chairperson of the meeting of the five members of the Committee whose terms shall expire at the end of two years, as provided in article 43, paragraph 6, of the Convention.

Minute of silence for the suffering children of the world

Closure of the Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

(a) ELECTION OF THE TEN MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 43 OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC/SP/2 and Add.1-3, CRC/SP/L.1) (continued)

1. The CHAIRMAN said that a tenth member of the Committee still needed to be elected. In accordance with the provisions of rule 15 of the rules of procedure, the voting would be unrestricted, since, at the previous meeting, there had been three inconclusive ballots.

2. He had been informed by the Secretariat that the candidacy of the expert from France had been withdrawn. Therefore, the fifth ballot would include 14 candidates.

3. Mr. TATTENBACH (Costa Rica) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Nieto-Cartin and support Miss Mason from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States.

4. Mr. KIBIDI NGOVUKA (Zaire) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Idzumbuir and support Mrs. Nana from the Group of African States.

5. Mrs. DA SILVA-SUNIAGA (Venezuela) said that her Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Ruesta de Furter and support Miss Mason.

6. Mr. EHLERS (Uruguay) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mr. Canton Pombo and support Miss Mason.

7. Mr. SERRANO (Spain) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mr. Ruiz Giménez.

8. Mr. PAPPALARDO (Paraguay) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mr. Elizeche Almeida and support Miss Mason.

9. Mrs. ASHTON (Bolivia) said that her Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Navajas Mogro de Alandia and support Miss Mason.

10. Mr. MELÉNDEZ-BARAHONA (El Salvador) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Calderón de Escalón and support Miss Mason.

11. Mr. SIDDIG (Sudan) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mr. Mohamed and support Mrs. Nana.

12. Mr. SLABY (Czechoslovakia) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mr. Vacek.

13. Mr. SANDOVAL (Ecuador) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mr. Crespo Toral and support Miss Mason.

14. Mr. MISSINHOUN (Benin) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Talon and support Mrs. Nana.

15. Mr. DANKWA (Ghana) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Quartey and support Mrs. Nana.

16. Mr. SOUMANA (Niger) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Housseini and support Mrs. Nana.

17. Mr. TURAY (Sierra Leone) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mr. Koroma and support Mrs. Nana.

18. Mr. DIALLO (Guinea) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mr. Diaby and support Mrs. Nana.

19. Mrs. SYAHRUDDIN (Indonesia) said that her Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mr. Saifuddin and support Mr. Mahmud from the Group of Asian States.

20. Mr. MARKER (Pakistan) expressed his Government's wish that Mr. Mahmud's candidacy should be retained. South Asia, with more than 1 billion children, was underrepresented on the Committee. Moreover, Pakistan had demonstrated its keen interest in children's issues, most notably at the World Summit for Children.

21. The CHAIRMAN said that the list of candidates for the fifth ballot included Mrs. Constantinescu, Mr. Mahmud, Miss Mason, Mrs. Nana and Mrs. Than. He proposed to the Meeting that if the fifth ballot was inconclusive, rule 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly should apply. In accordance with that rule, in the event of inconclusive ballots three unrestricted ballots, then three restricted ballots, would be taken alternately.

22. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Meeting agreed to apply rule 94 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

23. It was so decided.

24. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mrs. Peña (Nicaragua) and Mrs. Arungu-Olende (Kenya) acted as tellers.

25. A fifth vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	65
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	65
Abstentions:	1
Number of members voting:	64
Required majority:	33
Number of votes obtained:	
Miss Mason	27
Mrs. Nana	17
Mr. Mahmud	12
Mrs. Constantinescu	5
Mrs. Than	3

26. Mr. Borg-Olivier (Malta), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

27. The CHAIRMAN said that since no candidate had obtained the required majority, a sixth vote would be held, in a second unrestricted ballot including the same candidates.

28. A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Number of ballot papers:	67
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	67
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	67
Required majority:	34
Number of votes obtained:	
Miss Mason	32
Mrs. Nana	16
Mr. Mahmud	13
Mrs. Constantinescu	4
Mrs. Ngo Ba Than	2

29. Mrs. DINH THI HUYEN (Viet Nam) said that her Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Ngo Ba Than.

30. Mr. ALAFETEANU (Romania) said that his Government wished to withdraw the candidacy of Mrs. Constantinescu.

31. No candidate having obtained the required majority, a seventh vote was taken by secret ballot from among the three remaining candidates.

32. The Chairman resumed the Chair.

Number of ballot papers:	66
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	66
Abstentions:	0
Number of members voting:	66
Required majority:	34
Number of votes obtained:	
Mrs. Mason	37
Mr. Mahmud	16
Mrs. Nana	13

33. Mrs. Mason, having obtained the required majority, was elected as the tenth member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

(b) CHOICE BY LOT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE MEETING OF THE FIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WHOSE TERMS SHALL EXPIRE AT THE END OF TWO YEARS, AS PROVIDED IN ARTICLE 43, PARAGRAPH 6, OF THE CONVENTION

34. The Chairman drew by lot the names of the following five members of the Committee: Mrs. Badran, Mrs. Borges de Omena, Mrs. Corpuz-Eufemio, Mr. Mombeshora and Mrs. Santos Pais.

MINUTE OF SILENCE FOR THE SUFFERING CHILDREN OF THE WORLD

35. A minute of silence was observed for the suffering children of the world.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

36. The CHAIRMAN observed that the task just accomplished by the States Parties was another in a long line of efforts on behalf of children, which had earlier culminated in the adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, followed by the recent convening of the World Summit for Children. Human beings, as members both of the family and of organized society, had always understood that the future depended on their handing on of responsibility to descendants who had been prepared for their vital mission by a period of initiation through education and personal development under the best possible conditions. The members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, just

(The Chairman)

elected from among some 30 other candidates with equally impressive qualifications, would now, by fulfilling their mandate under article 43 of the Convention, undertake to do their part in building a world in which mankind, of which children were the starting point, would live at peace with itself, attaining its full dignity and potential.

37. He declared closed the first meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.